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NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 5, 2009

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EXPLORE WHIMSICAL SCIENCE AT UM DISTINGUISHED FACULTY LECTURE

MISSOULA —

University of Montana chemistry Professor Garon Smith will share fun topics that celebrate whimsical science at the next presentation of the Provost's Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series.

Smith will present "The Chemistry of Snowflakes, Color and Other Fun Stuff" at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, in the University Center Ballroom. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The event is for those who may wonder how a snowflake can be so beautifully symmetric but unique from all others, wrongly believe that the colors of the rainbow are abbreviated in the name of the fictitious ROY G BIV or want to find out what chemical compounds changed the name of New Amsterdam to New York City.

Smith, one of UM's most popular educators, is known to many throughout Montana as G. Wiz when he dons a purple wizard's cape and robe to capture students' attention with fiery tricks and clever, humorous incantations. He was named 2008 Montana Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

More information about the lecture series is available on the Office of the Provost Web site at <http://www.umt.edu/provost> or by calling 406-243-4689.

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